

of debate and one motion to recommit if applicable. Testimony was heard from Representative Price of North Carolina.

FIRE GRANTS REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2009

Committee on Science and Technology: Subcommittee on Technology and Innovation approved for full Committee action, as amended, H.R. 3791, Fire Grants Reauthorization Act of 2009.

SMALL BUSINESSES—INCREASING ACCESS TO CAPITAL

Committee on Small Business: Held a hearing entitled "Increasing Access to Capital for Small Businesses." Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

HIGH-SPEED RAIL

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure: Subcommittee on Railroads, Pipelines, and Hazardous Materials held a hearing on High-Speed Rail in the United States: Opportunities and Challenges. Testimony was heard from Representative Tiberi; Joseph C. Szabo, Administrator, Federal Railroad Administration, Department of Transportation; Susan Fleming, Director, GAO; Thomas Carper, Chairman of the Board, National Railroad Passenger Corporation (Amtrak); and public witnesses.

VA—UPDATE STATE

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: Held a hearing on the Update on the State of the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. Testimony was heard from Eric K. Shinseki, Secretary of Veterans Affairs.

BRIEFING—HOT SPOTS

Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence: Subcommittee on Terrorism, Human Intelligence and Counterintelligence met in executive session to receive a briefing on Hot Spots. The Subcommittee was briefed by departmental witnesses.

Joint Meetings

PROMOTION OF TOLERANCE AND UNDERSTANDING

Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe: Commission concluded a hearing to examine promoting tolerance and understanding in the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) region, focusing on the role of the personal representatives, after receiving testimony from Rabbi Andrew Baker, Personal Representative on Combating Anti-Semitism, Washington, D.C., Adil Akhmetov, Personal Representative on Combating Intolerance and Discrimination Against Muslims, Astana, Kazakhstan, and Mario Mauro, Personal Representative on Com-

bating Racism, Xenophobia and Discrimination, Milan, Italy, all of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe.

NEW PUBLIC LAWS

(For last listing of Public Laws, see DAILY DIGEST, p. D1170)

H.R. 3663, to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to delay the date on which the accreditation requirement under the Medicare Program applies to suppliers of durable medical equipment that are pharmacies. Signed on October 13, 2009. (Public Law 111-72)

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR THURSDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2009

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Erroll G. Southers, of California, to be Assistant Secretary of Homeland Security, Patrick Gallagher, of Maryland, to be Director of the National Institute of Standards and Technology, Department of Commerce, and Paul K. Martin, of Maryland, to be Inspector General, and Elizabeth M. Robinson, of Virginia, to be Chief Financial Officer, both of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, 2:30 p.m., SR-253.

Committee on Finance: to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Jim R. Esquea, of New York, to be Assistant Secretary for Legislation, Ellen Gloninger Murray, of Virginia, to be Assistant Secretary for Resources and Technology, and Bryan Hayes Samuels, of Illinois, to be Commissioner on Children, Youth, and Families, all of the Department of Health and Human Services, 10 a.m., SD-215.

Committee on Foreign Relations: Subcommittee on International Development and Foreign Assistance, Economic Affairs and International Environmental Protection, to hold hearings to examine drought, flooding and refugees, focusing on the impacts of climate change, 10 a.m., SD-419.

Subcommittee on International Operations and Organizations, Human Rights, Democracy and Global Women's Issues, to hold hearings to examine United States international broadcasting into the war zones, focusing on Iraq and Afghanistan, 2:30 p.m., SD-419.

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: to hold hearings to examine equal health care for equal premiums, focusing on women, 10:30 a.m., SD-430.

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: to hold hearings to examine domestic partner benefits, 10 a.m., SD-342.

Committee on the Judiciary: business meeting to consider S. 448 and H.R. 985, bills to maintain the free flow of information to the public by providing conditions for the federally compelled disclosure of information by certain

persons connected with the news media, S. 369, to prohibit brand name drug companies from compensating generic drug companies to delay the entry of a generic drug into the market, and S. 379, to provide fair compensation to artists for use of their sound recordings, and the nominations of Jacqueline H. Nguyen and Dolly M. Gee, both to be a United States District Judge for the Central District of California, and Edward Milton Chen and Richard Seeborg, both to be a United States District Judge for the Northern District of California, 10 a.m., SD-226.

Select Committee on Intelligence: to hold closed hearings to consider certain intelligence matters, 2:30 p.m., S-407, Capitol.

House

Committee on Armed Services, Defense Acquisition Reform Panel, hearing on Can the Department of Defense Protect Taxpayers: When It Pays Its Contractors? 8 a.m., 1310 Longworth.

Committee on Energy and Commerce, to mark up the following bills: H.R. 2994, Satellite Home Viewer Reauthorization Act; H.R. 1147, Local Community Radio Act of 2009; H.R. 3633, Public Safety Interoperable Communications Grant Program Extension Act of 2009; and H.R. 3792, Ryan White HIV/AIDS Treatment Extension Act of 2009, 10 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Commerce, Trade and Consumer Protection, hearing on The Minority Business Development Agency: Enhancing the Prospects for Success, 1 p.m., 2322 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations, hearing entitled "Insured But Not Covered: The Problem of Underinsurance," 1:30 p.m., 2123 Rayburn.

Committee on Financial Assistance, to continue consideration of the following measures: October 2, Discussion Draft of the Over-the-Counter Derivatives Markets Act of 2009; September 25, Discussion Draft of the Consumer Financial Protection Agency Act of 2009 (to be reported as H.R. 3126, Consumer Financial Protection Agency Act of 2009); H.R. 3763, To amend the Fair Credit Reporting Act to provide for an exclusion from Red Flag Guidelines for certain businesses; and H.R. 3639, Expedited

CARD Reform for Consumers Act of 2009, 9:30 a.m., 2128 Rayburn.

Committee on Foreign Affairs, hearing on Afghanistan Policy at the Crossroads, 10 a.m., 2172 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on the Western Hemisphere, to mark up H.R. 2134, Western Hemisphere Drug Policy Commission Act of 2009; followed by a hearing on Assessing U.S. Drug Policy in the Americas, 2 p.m., 2172 Rayburn.

Committee on the Judiciary, hearing on Ramifications of Auto Industry Bankruptcies, Part IV, 10 a.m., 2141 Rayburn.

Committee on Natural Resources, Subcommittee on Insular Affairs, Oceans and Wildlife, hearing on H.R. 3644, Bay-Watershed Education and Training (B-WET) Regional Program and National Environment Literacy Grant Program Act, 10 a.m., 1324 Longworth.

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, to mark up H.R. 1506, To provide that claims of the United States to certain documents relating to Franklin Delano Roosevelt shall be treated as waived and relinquished in certain circumstances, 2 p.m., 2154 Rayburn.

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, hearing on the Clean Water Act after 37 Years: Recommitting to the Protection of the Nation's Waters, 10 a.m., 2167 Rayburn.

Committee on Veterans' Affairs, Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity, hearing on VA Status Report on Post-9/11 G.I. Bill, 2 p.m., 334 Cannon.

Subcommittee on Health, hearing on Identifying the Causes of Inappropriate Billing Practices by the VA, 10 a.m., 334 Cannon.

Committee on Ways and Means, to approve the reconciliation letter to the House Committee on the Budget, 10 a.m., 1100 Longworth.

Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, executive, briefing on National Security Council Update, 12 p.m., 304-HVC.

Select Committee on Energy Independence and Global Warming, hearing entitled "Fraudulent Letters Opposing Clean Energy Legislation," 9:30 a.m., 210 Cannon.